

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims pursuant to the Office Action and the telephone interview held on December 28, 2011. These claims have been entered to place this case in condition for allowance.

The rejections to the claims are believed to be moot in view of the above amendments.

In the telephone interview, the Examiner and Applicants' Attorney reviewed the proposed claims and the cited prior art was discussed. Applicants' Attorney mentioned that all the independent claims have a master piston, slave piston and adjusting piston. The amended independent claim 20, and new independent claims 40, and 54 have the adjusting piston between the master and slave piston with the T intersection such that the liquid column is divided to the master cylinder and the slave cylinder from the adjusting cylinder. Claim 49 is directed to the adjusting piston connected in parallel to the master piston and the travel of the slave, adjusting, and master piston follow a specific equation.

It was pointed out by Applicants' Attorney that the cited Salecker et al. reference did not seem to have any adjusting piston with a liquid column dividing out between the master and slave pistons. The Examiner agreed that there appeared to be no line intercepting or attached between the master and slave pistons and the proposed amended claims appear to be narrowed to avoid the known art.

The Applicants' Attorney also discussed that the cited Steinel et al. reference parts 25 and 27 were solenoid valves and cannot be interpreted as pistons.

The Examiner inquired if there was any art with the adjusting piston "between" the master and slave pistons and Applicants' Attorney mentioned that one of the IDS citations EP 0324553 disclosed an adjusting piston between the master and slave pistons.

The Applicants' Attorney also mentioned that the EP 0324553 reference was cited during prosecution of sister cases in Europe and that the presently amended claims are

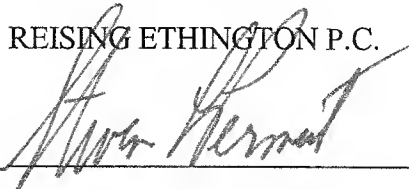
substantively very similar to the claims that are in issued European Patents 1728000; 1927777; and 1927776.

The Examiner stated that the claims in the proposed amendment appear to define over the cited art and, subject to another search, will be allowed. Applicants' Attorney thanked the Examiner for the interview and his time and stated that the formal amendment with the proposed amendments will be formally entered and this summary of the interview will be submitted soon.

Applicant hereby requests a one (1) month extension of time. Credit Card Payment in the amount of \$400.00 for the one (1) additional independent claim and one (1) month extension of time is being submitted. If it is determined that any additional fees are due with this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and respectfully requested to charge such fee to our deposit account No. 50-0852.

Respectfully submitted,

REISING ETHINGTON P.C.



Steven L. Permut
Reg. No. 28,388
P.O. Box 4390
Troy, Michigan 48099
(248) 689-3500

Date: January 4, 2012